

## REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant wishes to express appreciation to Examiner Ngo for determining that the subject application contains patentable subject matter.

Claims 1-117 are pending in the subject application. Claims 1-46 and 64-117 are deemed withdrawn. In the present Amendment, Applicant has canceled withdrawn claims 13-21, 24-32, 39-46, and 72-117 without disclaimer or prejudice and expressly reserves the right to pursue protection for those claims in a divisional application. Withdrawn claims 1-12, 22, 23, and 33-38 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 47. Upon indication of allowance of claim 47, they too should also be allowable.

In the present Official Action, claim 47 was rejected and claims 48-63 have been objected to. Applicant has also added new claims 118-144 to an articulated communications mast which are also seen to be allowable.

Claim 47 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2003/0146181 to Taylor et al. In particular, the Official Action provided that “Taylor et al. disclose a base member (64), at least two mast segments (34, 38) pivotally interconnected in series and being supported by said base member (Fig. 8), and wherein at least two of said pivotally interconnected mast segments are selectively pivotable relative to each other between positions wherein said at least two pivotably interconnected mast segments are coaxially aligned with each other (fig 7) and other portions wherein said at least two pivotably mast segments are not coaxially aligned relative to each other.”

Responsive to this rejection Applicant respectfully submits that the boom hoist rigging 38 of Taylor et al. is not a mast segment. As can be seen in Figure 17 of Taylor et al., the boom hoist rigging 38 appears to comprise a hoist rope 40 that is reeved around sheave assemblies 42, 44. See page 2, ¶ 0030 of Taylor et al. See also FIG. 8 of Taylor et al. Taylor et al. discuss the method of raising the mast in paragraphs 0043-0054. Notably, Taylor et al. provide:

As explained above, the boom hoist rigging 38 is lengthened by rotating the boom hoist

drum 46 so as to pay out the boom hoist rope. As will be explained in greater detail below, a slight tension is maintained in the boom hoist rigging 38 so as to maintain in the boom hoist rigging 38 so as to maintain control of the mast. Tension is also maintained in the boom hoist rigging 38 so as to, for example, maintain proper spooling of the bottom hoist rope 40 on the boom hoist drum 46.

Taylor et al., ¶ 0046 (emphasis added). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that the rigging 38 is not a mast. Rigging 38 comprises **cable** used to move the mast. Applicant has amended claim 47 to clarify that the mast segments are rigid. It is clear that the rigging 38 of Taylor et al. is not rigid. Thus, Taylor et al. cannot anticipate claim 47.

Moreover, Applicant further submits that the Official Action fails to point to any specific teaching in Taylor et al. that shows that the rigging 38 can be pivoted to a position wherein the rigging is coaxially aligned with the mast 34 as recited in claim 47. Applicant respectfully submits that if one were to pivot the boom 26 to a vertical position, it would likely fall over because the rigging 38 is not rigid. Thus, in addition to the above-mentioned reason, Applicant also submits that Taylor et al. fails to anticipate the subject matter of claim 47 for failing to teach that aspect of claim 47.

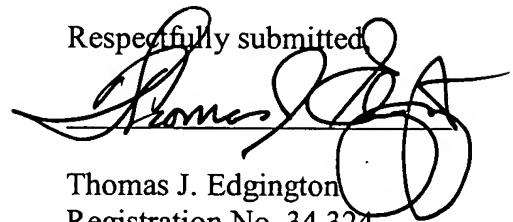
Claim 47 further provides that the rigid mast segments are pivotally interconnected in series. Applicant respectfully submits that the boom inserts are not pivotally interconnected.

Examination of the subject application and issuance of a Notice of Allowance at an early date are earnestly solicited. However, if the Examiner has any remaining concerns regarding any of the pending claims, he is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the

Application No. 10/699,998  
Amendment Dated October 31, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2006

telephone number listed below so that those concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted



Thomas J. Edgington  
Registration No. 34,324

Attorney for Applicant

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson Graham LLP  
Henry W. Oliver Building  
535 Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

(412) 355-8303